

March 2016 Scholarshíp Newsletter

2015-2016 test dates

| SAT | | ACT | |
|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Test Date | Register by | Test Date | Register by |
| October 3 | CLOSED | October 24 | CLOSED |
| November 7 | CLOSED | December 12 | CLOSED |
| December 5 | CLOSED | February 6 | CLOSED |
| January 23 | CLOSED | April 9 | March 4 |
| March 5 | CLOSED | June 11 | May 6 |
| May 7 | April 8 | | • |
| June 4 | May 5 | | |

^{**}Students who receive free or reduced lunch may receive fee waivers to take each test two (2) times free of charge. These waivers also make you eligible for college application fee waivers. See your counselor for more information.**

To sign up for the SAT: www.collegeboard.com / To sign up for the ACT: www.actstudent.org

Remember to bring Ms. Bimson your scholarship notification letters as you receive them! YES, we want copies of them even if you aren't going to go there or accept that scholarship.



means that this is a NEW scholarship listing for this month

The 2016 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is now OPEN at www.fafsa.gov

This is the online form that you must fill out in order to be eligible for ANY federally funded need-based grants and/or loans to help pay for college. It is FREE to fill out. If you are attending college next year, you should fill it out. You will need your parents' tax information to fill it out, and you should fill it out ASAP! Remind your parents that they should complete and turn in their W2's as soon as possible.

A FAFSA information page is included at the end of this scholarship newsletter, and is also available in the counseling office.

A complete, step-by-step guide to completing the FAFSA can be found at https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/sites/default/files/2015-16-completing-fafsa.pdf

There is no deadline to fill out the FAFSA, but you should do it as soon as possible so that you can be eligible for as many financial aid opportunities as possible!

West Teaching Scholarship at the Catawba College Academy for Teaching

Amount: \$2500 renewable annually

Criteria: Students planning to attend Catawba College and major in education may apply. Selection criteria include: high academic achievement, demonstrated leadership, community involvement & commitment to teaching.

To apply: Visit www.catawba.edu/academyforteaching

Deadline: Varies

North Carolina High School Athletic Association Endowed Scholarships

Criteria: The NCHSAA offers a variety of scholarships, four of which are listed below.

To apply: For more information about each and to apply to any of them, visit: http://www.nchsaa.org/students-porents/ctudent-sthlete.geholorships

parents/student-athlete-scholarships

Deadline: Varies

1. Wilburn Clary Student Medal

Amount: Varies

Criteria: Awarded to one male and one female graduating senior student-athlete participating on a sanctioned varsity sport team during senior year. Athlete must have participated on at least two sanctioned varsity sports during his/her high school career.

2. Jerry McGee Endowed Scholarship

Amount: Varies

Criteria: This scholarship honors student-athletes who have distinguished themselves by overcoming adversity and returned to excel beyond expectations in their sport.

3. Charlie Adams Endowed Scholarship

Amount: Varies

Criteria: There will be two winners of this scholarship – one male varsity wrestler and one female varsity cross country runner.

4. Pat Gainey Student Award:

Amount: Varies

Criteria: Two student-athletes with a focus on need-based applicants. Applicants must be a Senior, male high school athlete participating on a *varsity baseball team* or a Senior, female student participating on a *varsity sports team*.

UNC-G Guarantee

Amount: Covers the full cost of all unmet need at UNC-G

Criteria: UNCG Guarantee helps high-achieving low-income N.C. students graduate from UNCG in four years with little or no debt as well as provides a support program to encourage academic and personal success. The university will make every attempt to meet the rest of the recipients' financial need through a combination of federal, state, university, and private grants and scholarships. Applicants must be high schools seniors accepted to UNC-Greensboro, received a combined reading/math SAT of 1000 or an ACT composite of 21. You must complete the FAFSA and qualify for federal financial aid. For more information visit: http://guarantee.uncg.edu/

To apply: http://guarantee.uncg.edu/apply-for-guarantee. Remember, you must have completed the FAFSA before you are considered eligible.

Deadline: Priority consideration given to those who apply before March 1, 2015

Mary and Millard Kiker Scholarship

Amount: \$1.000

Criteria: Interested high school seniors with a min. 2.5 GPA should complete an application on-line. Applicants must demonstrate substantial financial need and be a legal resident of Union County.

To apply: Visit: https://fftcscholarships.communityforce.com/Funds/Search.aspx

Deadline: March 4, 2016

Union County Principal's and Assistant Principal's Association (UCPAPA)

1. Administrative Scholarship

Amount: \$750

Criteria: This scholarship is awarded to a senior who is the child of a UCPS school administrator and currently enrolled in UCPS. Applicants must plan to enroll in a four-year college full time in fall 2015 and must have a min. 2.0 GPA, exhibit leadership qualities and extra-curricular activities. Three letters of recommendation are required.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office for an application.

Deadline: March 22, 2016

2. UCPAPA Scholarship for Education Majors

Amount: \$1000

Criteria: This scholarship is awarded to a senior who plans to major in education. Applicants must have a min. 2.0 GPA, exhibit leadership qualities and extra-curricular activities. Three letters of character recommendation are required.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office for an application.

Deadline: March 22, 2016

Western Carolina University Endowed Scholarships

Amount: varies

Criteria: Western Carolina University awards many endowed scholarships to incoming freshman. Some are merit-based and some are need-based; if you are applying for need-based scholarships, make sure you complete your FAFSA by March 1. For more information on available scholarships visit: https://scholarcat.wcu.edu/Default.asp

To apply: Visit https://scholarcat.wcu.edu/Default.asp

Deadline: Varies but your FAFSA must be completed by March 1, 2016 to qualify for need-based scholarships.

North Carolina Farm Bureau R. Flake Shaw Scholarship Program

1. Community College Scholarship

Amount: Two scholarships for \$1,000 per year for 2 years will be awarded.

Criteria: Any current high school senior who is going to attend community college to pursue a career in agriculture or an agriculturally related field. Student should demonstrate financial need, satisfactory grades, an evident understanding of the agricultural and/or agribusiness community, and leadership potential. Preference is given to Farm Bureau members.

To apply: Applications available online at: http://www.ncfb.org/Programs/R-Flake-Shaw-Scholarship

Deadline: March 4, 2016

2. University/College (4-year) Scholarship

Amount: Six scholarships for \$4,000 per year for 4 years will be awarded.

Criteria: Any current high school senior who is going to attend a 4-year college/university to pursue a career in agriculture or an agriculturally related field. Student should demonstrate financial need, satisfactory grades, an evident understanding of the agricultural and/or agribusiness community, and leadership potential. Preference is given to Farm Bureau members.

To apply: Applications available online at: http://www.ncfb.org/Programs/R-Flake-Shaw-Scholarship

Deadline: March 4, 2016

Charlotte Metro Area Relocation Council (CMARC) Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Criteria: Any high school senior who relocated to the Charlotte area sometime between grades 9 and 12 is eligible

to apply.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson for an application

Deadline: March 5, 2016

Doris Ross Hinson Female Medical Scholarship Program

Amount: \$1000

Criteria: This scholarship is designed for one female student **who attends Forest Hills High School**. The student should have a minimum 3.0 GPA, intend to enroll in a two-year or four-year college full time to pursue a degree in the medical field (including nursing) and demonstrate substantial need for financial assistance through filling out the FAFSA and obtaining your Student Aid Report. The student must be accepted at an accredited college and exhibit scholastic achievement, participation in extracurricular activities and good character.

To apply: Applications available from Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office. Essay and 3 teacher references are required.

Deadline: Return all application materials to Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office by March 9, 2016

NC Alpha Delta Kappa Scholarship

Amount: \$2,000

Criteria: There are three scholarships available. The information is below:

- 1. **The Eunice Riggins Memorial Scholarship** is open to any **female** high school student who will be graduating and enrolling at a four-year college in N.C. Students must have already applied to the college of their choice, rank in the top 10% of class, min. ACT score of 20 or SAT of 1650, have good character, and participate in extra-curricular activities.
- 2. **The Mary Rose Mills-Linda Rankin Memorial Scholarship** is open to **any** high school student who will be graduating and enrolling at a four-year college in N.C. Students must have already applied to the college of their choice, rank in the top 10% of class, min. ACT score of 22 or SAT of 1700, have good character, and participate in extra-curricular activities.
- 3. The Clare Johnson Marley-Mary Earle Berger Fine Arts Scholarship is open to any high school student who will be graduating and enrolling at a four-year college in N.C. and declares a major of the fine arts. ACT score of 20 or SAT of 1650, have good character, and participate in extra-curricular activities. Students must also submit a CD/DVD demonstrating proof of talent or ability in the fine arts.

To apply: Applications available with Ms. Bimson

Deadline: March 15, 2016

Union Power Cooperative Scholarship

Amount: (6) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded

Criteria: These scholarships are given to outstanding graduating high school seniors who live within Union Power Cooperatives' five county service areas. Applicants should be a child of a Union Power Cooperative Member or live in homes served by Union Power Cooperative. Applicants should be planning to attend 2 or 4 year college or university. Criteria for awarding the scholarship to an individual is based on 40% financial need, 30% scholastic achievement, and 30% extracurricular activities in school, civic, and community functions.

To apply: Applications can be found online https://union-power.com/collegescholarships/

Deadline: Application must be postmarked by March 18, 2016

The Gordon Hay Scholarship Fund (Blumenthal Performing Arts)

Amount: \$5000 (for non-tuition expenses)

Criteria: Open to students who show exemplary academic performance, strong pursuit of excellence, community & school involvement, acceptance into a four-year college to study a career in a non-performance (technical) area of the performing arts. Applicants must submit FAFSA, essay, references and transcript. Portfolio presentation will be April 2.

To apply: Visit Blumenthalarts.org/scholarships

Deadline: Applications must be received by March 18, 2016

Michael A. DeMayo Scholarship

Amount: \$2,500

Criteria: Current high school senior who is planning to pursue a degree at a 4 year college or university; should have a minimum 3.0 GPA and have taken the SAT or ACT. You will need to complete the scholarship application, including a recent photo of yourself, a high school transcript, your SAT and/or ACT scores, and two letters of recommendation. You will prepare a presentation (video, PowerPoint, brochure, website, or essay) that encourages fellow teens to abstain from underage drinking and driving, or that highlights the dangers of drinking and driving. All application materials must be mailed together in one package.

To apply: Applications available with Ms. Bimson Deadline: Must be postmarked by March 18, 2016

NC Association of Educational Office Professionals Scholarships

1. Union County EOP Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: Open to all UCPS seniors whose parent is a member of UCAEOP

2. Ann H. Williams Memorial Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: Open to all UCPS seniors who are children of UCPS employees

3. Billy Stegall Memorial Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: Open to all UCPS seniors

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in Counseling for an application

Deadline for all scholarships: March 18, 2016

The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Committee, Inc Scholarship

Amount: (2) \$500 scholarships

Criteria: Applications include an application form, transcript, 3 letters of recommendation and as essay on "Why Dr. King deems it necessary to write his 'I Have a Dream' speech." The winner must be present at the awards ceremony on May 16.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in the Counseling office for an application

Deadline: Applications must be returned to Ms. Bimson by 8:30am on March 23, 2016.

<u>Kathleen Stewart Hargett Memorial Scholarship – Marshville Presbyterian Church</u>

Amount: Varies

Criteria: This scholarship is specifically for Forest Hills High School students. Selection is made based on academic achievement, commitment to community service, faculty recommendations, and a short essay on any topic of your choice. You must provide evidence of church membership and college acceptance to apply.

To apply: Applications are available from Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office.

Deadline: Applications and ALL supplemental material should be returned to Ms. Bimson by March 23, 2016

The Mary Doctor Performing Arts Scholarship (Blumenthal Performing Arts)

Amount: Two \$10,000 annually renewable scholarships

Criteria: Open to students who show above-average ability and who will be pursuing an undergraduate degree in a field directly related to the performing arts. To be eligible applicants must have a min. weighted 2.5 GPA, financial need and acceptance in to a four-year college. Essay, references, transcript, and SAR are needed. Auditions/portfolio presentations will be held April 16.

To apply: Visit Blumenthalarts.org/scholarships

Deadline: Applications must be received by March 24, 2016.



Amount: up to \$10,000

Criteria: The program awards approx. 20 scholarships to college-bound students who are legally blind. Applicants must submit proof of legal blindness, be a US Citizen or legal resident, submit 3 letters of recommendation and a

personal statement.

To apply: www.lighthouseguild.org/scholarships

Deadline: March 31, 2016

HSF (Hispanic Scholarship Fund) General Scholarship

Amount: \$500-\$5,000

Criteria: Applicants must be of Hispanic heritage, U.S. Citizen, DACA or eligible non-citizen (as defined by FAFSA) or permanent legal residents. Applicants should have a 3.0 unweighted GPA, plan to enroll full-time in a 4-year

university and complete the FAFSA or Dream Act (if applicable).

To apply: Visit https://hsf.net/en/scholarships/programs/general-college-scholarships

Deadline: March 31, 2016

Pee Dee Electric Membership Corp. Awareness Committee Scholarship

Amount: Six \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded

Criteria: High school senior whose residence receives electric service from Pee Dee EMC and who plans to attend two year or four year college. Applicants should have a B average, one letter of recommendation, list of extracurricular activities and test scores along with the application.

To apply: Applications are available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office.

Deadline: March 31, 2016

Atlas Greenhouse Horticulture Scholarship 2016

Amount: \$1500 awarded to three high school seniors

Criteria: Any senior who has purchased an "Educator" Greenhouse from Atlas Manufacturing, Inc. between Jan. 1, 2015-Dec. 31, 2015. This student must also have a nomination from his/her horticulture teacher. Student must desire to further his/her education in the field of horticulture, have good character and work ethic, participate in high school horticulture program and extra-curricular activities.

To apply: Download an application from www.atlasgreenhouse.com or get an application from Ms. Bimson in

the Counseling Office

Deadline: March 31, 2015

The North Carolina Bar Association Scholarship for Children of NC Law Enforcement Officers

Amount: Varies

Criteria: High school seniors with a parent who is a NC Law Enforcement officer disabled or killed in the line of duty are eligible to apply. Applicants must be accepted to college or vocational school and plan to attend full-time in the fall.

To apply: Applications are available online at: http://ncbar.org/media/616285/yldscholarship2016.pdf or see Ms.

Bimson for an application **Deadline: April 1, 2016**



Union County Extension Master Gardener Association Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: Graduating senior from any Union Co. school who is a resident of Union County and has a min. 3.0 GPA. The applicant must plan to attend a N.C. college/university to major in botany, environmental studies, forestry, landscape architecture, horticulture, crop sciences, local foods, animal husbandry or related fields. The award will be given based on academic standing, personal statement, and one letter of recommendation.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson in Counseling for the application

Deadline: April 1, 2016

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Criteria: Any female high school senior that is committed to entering the teaching profession. Candidates should excel academically and be involved in community and school activities. Must include transcript, test scores, and a letter of endorsement with application.

To apply: Applications are available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office.

Deadline: April 2, 2016

Carrols LLC (Burger King) Community Scholarship Fund

Amount: Varies

Criteria: Any high school senior or Burger King employee can apply. Applicants will be chosen based on high school activities, employment history and recommendation, counselor or principal recommendation, and community service. Application form, transcript and test scores (if available) are required.

To apply: Applications are available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office

Deadline: April 4, 2016

The NC Retail Merchants Association (NCRMA) Scholarship

Amount: \$2,500

Criteria: This scholarship is open to any senior who works for a CFIC member or whose parent works for a CFIC member (if you need to verify that an employer is a member, you can call (919) 832-0811. Most retail companies are members!). Scholarship winners will be chosen based on academic record, test scores, and extracurricular activities.

To apply: www.retailpaysforcollege.org

Deadline: A complete application packet must be received or post marked by April 4, 2016.



Union County Association of Educators/Retired Educators of Union County

Amount: \$1750

Criteria: Any current senior planning on majoring in education

To apply: Applications available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office

Deadline: Applications should be postmarked by **April 5, 2016**.



Light on the Hill Society Scholarship

Amount: (8) \$2,500 scholarships and (2) \$2,000 renewable scholarships will be given

Criteria: Scholarships are awarded to first-year African-American students who have been admitted to the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and plan to attend in Fall 2016. Recipients will be selected based on excellent academic achievement, strong community service involvement, outstanding leadership qualities and essay answers.

To apply: Application is available online at: https://alumni.unc.edu/light-on-the-hill-society-scholarship/loth-

application/

Deadline: April 8, 2016

State Employees Association of North Carolina Scholarship Foundation

Amount: Varies

Criteria: Applicants must be the son or daughter of a member of SEANC in order to be eligible for scholarships. There are need based and merit based scholarships available. Merit based scholarships are based on academic performance, financial need, community involvement, personal statement, and recommendations. Need based takes these same things into consideration, as well as financial need. Scholarships are available for 2 year and 4 year colleges in addition to trade and technical schools.

To apply: Applications and full details are available at www.seanc.org/membership/scholarship

Deadline: Postmarked and mailed to the SEANC district chairman by April 15, 2016



Kiwanis Club of Monroe Endowed Scholarship

Amount: \$2,000

Criteria: Applicant must be a graduating senior who possesses strong character, a demonstrated belief in service to the community, and academic evidence predicting success in college (2 or 4 year). The purpose of the scholarship is to help a student who can be successful in college but may not receive financial assistance elsewhere. Applicants will need the application form, a transcript, and three letters of recommendation.

To apply: Applications available from Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office.

Deadline: Postmarked by April 15, 2016



North Carolina Society of Accountants Scholarship

Amount: \$600

Criteria: Applicants must be N.C. residents planning to enroll in a N.C. college to gain a degree in Accounting. Applicants should include a recent photograph, two letters of reference, a letter of intent, transcript, and a copy of Federal Income Tax Return.

To apply: Applications are available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office.

Deadline: April 15, 2016

HotelsCheap.org Scholarship

Amount: \$1,500

Criteria: Scholarship winner is chosen based on answers to four short essay topics. No GPA minimum required.

To apply: http://www.hotelscheap.org/scholarship/apply

Deadline: April 15, 2016

Winchester Alumni Association Scholarships:

1. Rep. William "Pete" Cunningham Scholarship

2. Professor J.W. Graham Scholarship

3. Ms. Aurelia Williams Scholarship

Amount: \$500 each

Criteria: Applicants should have a 2.5 GPA or higher, 3 letters of recommendation, documentation of

community service, transcript, photo, and will interview with scholarship committee.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson for application

Deadline: April 18, 2016

A Few Good Men/John Crowder Scholarships

Amount: \$500 each

Criteria: Applicants must have a 2.5 GPA or higher, 3 letters of recommendation, recent photo, and evidence

of community service. An interview will be conducted for each applicant.

To apply: See Ms. Bimson for application

Deadline: April 18, 2016

North Carolina Child Support Council Scholarship

Amount: \$1,000

Criteria: One parent must be a member of the NC Child Support Council or a client of the Child Support Program (though either Child Support services or Clerk of Court services); applicants must be a NC resident and a high school senior who has been *accepted* by a 2 or 4 year college or university in North Carolina. Applicants should have maintained a C average during high school (above a 2.0 GPA).

To apply: Applications are available from Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office. You will need a high school transcript, 2 letters of recommendation, and a copy of your college acceptance letter.

Deadline: Must be postmarked by April 20, 2016

SECU People Helping People Scholarship

Amount: \$10,000 over 4 years - One student from each NC public high school receives a scholarship!

Criteria: Applicants must have a minimum unweighted 2.5 GPA and be accepted into and planning on attending one of the 17 UNC schools. The recipient of this scholarship should be a student who exemplifies the philosophy of "People Helping People" and demonstrates leadership, integrity, community involvement, and academic achievement. Preference is given to students whose parents, guardians, or family members are public sector employees in North Carolina (i.e. teachers, police officers, etc.).

To apply: Local applications are available with Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office and must be returned to her **by April 22nd** before the scholarship committee meets. The scholarship committee will determine the scholarship recipient from Forest Hills.

Deadline: Completed application must be returned to Ms. Bimson by April 22, 2016



Mary Blair Scholarship

Amount: \$500 scholarship

Criteria: This scholarship is for students who are members of a church affiliated with the Union Baptist Association and who are planning on *enrolling at Wingate University in Fall 2016*.

To apply: Applications available from Ms. Bimson in the Counseling Office

Deadline: Postmarked by May 2, 2016



Good Neighbor Pharmacy Scholarship

Amount: (3) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to N.C. students

Criteria: Applicants must be current seniors who plan to enroll full-time in a U.S. college in Fall 2016. Applicants must submit transcript, 200 word essay on "Improving the Health of My Community," a list of extracurricular activities, a letter stating why he/she is deserving of the scholarship and a letter of

recommendation.

To apply: http://www.mygnp.com/scholarship

Deadline: May 11, 2016

Sun Trust Off to College Scholarship Sweepstakes

Amount: \$500 (two winners every two weeks from Oct-May)

Criteria: High school seniors planning to attend a two year or four year public or private college. Fifteen drawings will be held and one winner will be chosen every two weeks from October 30, 2015 through May 13, 2016.

To apply: Registration begins September 14th at http://www.suntrusteducation.com/sweeps/

Deadline: May 13, 2016



Betsy Y Justus NCTA Founders Scholarship

Amount: \$4000

Criteria: Applicants must be female Seniors who plans to attend a N.C. college in Fall 2016. Must have a 3.0 min. GPA and declare a STEM major. Application includes transcript, proof of college acceptance, and letter of recommendation.

To apply: http://www.nctechnology.org/about/scholarship.aspx

Deadline: May 31, 2016

CFNC Financial Literacy Scholarship

Amount: \$500

Criteria: Anyone who completes the Financial Basics course on CFNC is entered for an opportunity to win this \$500

scholarship.

To apply: https://basics.financialliteracy101.org/ Complete the Financial Basics course and you will automatically

be entered in a \$500 drawing. You will have to log in with your CFNC account.

Deadline: June 2016

Art Institute Scholarship Competitions

Amount: varies

Criteria: The Art Institute offers LOTS of scholarship money through their scholarship competition programs in a variety of areas (Photography, Teen Chef, Fashion Design). Each has their own requirements and deadlines, so check their website for detailed information!

To apply: Visit their website at: http://www.artinstitutes.edu/competitions/high-school.aspx

Deadline: Varies

SPCC Scholarships

SPCC has a single form that is used to apply to all of their scholarships. Applications can be found online at www.spcc.edu. Any student who applies to SPCC and fills out the common scholarship application, and completes a FAFSA will be considered for any scholarship for which they qualify.

National Database of Nursing Scholarships

• The National Database of Nursing Scholarships has over 1,700 nursing programs to research, and over 10,000 nursing scholarships listed. To apply, students must visit http://www.free-4u.com/nursing/.

THIS IS NOT AN ALL-INCLUSIVE LISE OF SCHOLARSHIPS.

To search for other scholarships, you can use the websites listed below. It is also a good idea to look at the financial aid portion of the website of the schools to which you are interested in applying – they often have specific need- and merit-based scholarships just for their applicants. Churches, community groups, your employer or family members' employers are also great resources for potential scholarships.

HELPFUL SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITES

| www.cfnc.org | www.srnexpress.com | www.fafsa.ed.gov |
|-----------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| www.fastweb.com | www.weeklyscholarshipalert.com | www.finaid.org |
| www.schoolsoup.com | www.scholarshipplus.com | www.cappex.com |
| www.studentaid.ed.gov | www.collegeboard.com | www.actstudent.org |
| www.myrichuncle.com | www.scholarshiphelp.com | www.scholarships.com |
| www.wiredscholar.com | www.salliemae.com/scholarships | www.studentawardsearch.com |
| www.scholarshipprovider.net | www.freecollegescholarships.net | www.collegeboard.org |
| www.hispanicfund.org | www.thencshp.org/resources/for-s (information for Hispanic students) | - |

Helpful Tips for Completing Your FAFSA

Before you get started, you should collect the information listed below. If you do not have some of it, you will still be able to fill out the form, but it will be easier with this information:

- Social Security Number (yours and your parents)
- Driver's license (if you have one)
- 2015 W-2 forms and any other record of money you earned in 2015, if you worked. W2's should arrive by the end of January.
- Your parents 2015 W-2 forms and any other record of money they earned in 2015
- Your 2015 Federal Tax Income Return
- Your parents 2015 Federal Tax Income Return
- Current bank statements for you and your parents, if applicable
- Any business, mortgage, or other investment records (if applicable)
- If you are not a U.S. Citizen, you will need your alien registration or permanent resident card.

1. Go to www.pin.ed.gov

- Choose Apply for a PIN and answer the questions on the screen. Make sure your email address and mailing address are
 correct.
- Click Submit Request. (We recommend choosing 'display PIN now' or 'have PIN emailed to you' so that you receive it
 immediately. Write it down and save it somewhere you will be able to access it easily!)
- Both the student AND a parent must create their own unique PIN Number. A student and parent cannot share the same PIN it serves as your electronic signature so each person must have their own.
- Save this PIN. You will use it each year to re-apply for federal need-based financial aid.

2. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov and click on the green Start A New FAFSA button.

- Answer all questions as honestly and accurately as possible. You cannot leave questions blank.
- Instructions are provided for each FAFSA question in the Help and Hints section on the right side of the page.
- The words 'you' and 'your' mean the student. 'School' means the college or university you will attend in 2016.
- If your parents are divorced, separated, or not living together, you should give the financial information for the parent you lived with the most in 2015.
- Round up all dollar amounts to the nearest dollar.
- Dates should be typed to correlate to month, date and year (ex: February 1, 2015 would be 02012015).
- You can save your application information at any point in the applications. Click Save at the bottom of any page. To go back
 and restart your application, you will need to provide your first and last name, Social Security number, date of birth, and the
 password you used when you began the first time.
- When you are finished, sign the FAFSA electronically with your PIN numbers. This allows you to submit the form electronically and you will get your Student Aid Report faster.

^{*}If you have children, are or were in foster care, have a legal guardian other than your biological parents, or are an emancipated minor, you may fill out your FAFSA differently. See your counselor for more information.

3. What happens after you apply?

- A FAFSA processor will analyze the information you provided and calculate an *Expected Family Contribution*.
- The results of your FAFSA will be sent to you and to the schools you listed on your application in the form of a *Student Aid Report (SAR)*. If you provided an email address, your SAR will be emailed to you within 3-5 business days. If you did not provide an email address or did not sign your FAFSA electronically with your PIN number, your SAR will be mailed to you.
- Each individual college or university will look at your SAR and decide what kind and how much financial aid they will disburse to you.
- If you believe you have unusual circumstances that should be taken into account and were not reflected in the FAFSA, you should contact the financial aid office at the college or university, as they are the ones who determine your financial aid package.

Need more help or have other questions?

Online Help is available by clicking **Need Help?** at the bottom of each page at **www.fafsa.gov**, or you can call **1-800-433-3243** (toll free).